**Tax Information Network to identify tax evaders**

1406. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have established Tax Information Network (TIN) to identify tax evaders in the country;

(b) if so, to what extent TIN has been useful in detecting tax evaders;

(c) whether only high value financial transactions coming through banks and other sources are traced by the Income Tax Department; and

(d) if not, what is the modus-operandi used to trap tax evaders in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The Tax Information Network (TIN) was set up in January 2004 as a repository of important tax related information which is accessed by the income-tax Department for the purposes of widening and deepening the tax base.

(b) The Department is using the information coming from TIN for identifying non-filers of income-tax returns, for selecting cases for scrutiny and for other enquiry/investigation.

(c) and (d) The Department collects information from various internal and external sources in addition to the information about high value transations reported by banks and other agencies in the Annual Information Returns. In order to unearth tax evasion, the Department utilizes the information from these sources for enquiry/investigation, including undertaking searches & seizures and surveys in appropriate cases.

**Inefficiency of Insurance Companies**

1407. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Public Sector Insurance Companies are very slow and negative in meeting their commitments;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of complaints are pending against